

District of Columbia
District Department of the Environment



**NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY
AND
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)**

Stream Restoration Monitoring
(Short name: Stream Restoration Monitoring)
RFA # 2014-1405-WPD

3/21/2014

Application deadline: by 4:30 PM 4/4/2014

Government of the District of Columbia
District Department of the Environment
1200 First Street, NE 5th Floor
Washington, DC 20002
(202) 535-2600



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SECTION 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Introduction

The District of Columbia District Department of Environment (DDOE) is soliciting grant applications from eligible entities (called “Applicants”). The goals of this Request for Applications (RFA) are to prevent and control the introduction of point and nonpoint source pollution to the District’s waters, treat stormwater runoff, and protect fisheries and wildlife resources. The following programs or office of DDOE is administering this RFA: WATERSHED - PLANNING & RESTORATION (“WPD”).

1.2 Purpose of the Grants

The purpose of this grant is to assess stream health before and after stream restoration.

1.3 Source of Funds

The source of funds for the grant is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Nonpoint Source Management Grant.

1.4 Competition for a Grant Award

This RFA is competitive. Each applicant must demonstrate its ability to carry out the activities for the grant/s for which it applies (called a “project”). A review panel will evaluate the applications for each advertised grant according to the stated list of criteria in each project’s description. The proposal/s with the highest score/s will be awarded the grant.

Specifically, grant awards will be made based on eligibility (Section 1.6), the extent to which the proposed project fits within the scope and available funding of the grant, strength of the application, and the organization’s capacity to achieve the grant’s goals.

Each applicant may submit an application for more than one project, if applicable.

1.5 Projects and Funds Available

This RFA presents the following number of projects for the stated total dollar amount presently available through this RFA: 1 for \$50,000.00. DDOE seeks applications for:

Project Number	Project Name	Project Amount
1	Nash Run and Springhouse Run Restoration Monitoring	\$50,000.00

1.6 Eligibility

The following are eligible to apply if an “x” appears:

- ☒-Nonprofit organizations, including those with IRS 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) determinations
- ☐-Faith-based organizations and educational institutions
- ☐-Government agencies
- ☒-Universities/higher education.

A continuing condition of eligibility is that the application is truthful and its material conditions are still valid. For instance, if an application rested on the availability of specially skilled staff, and those staff should leave after the application’s submittal or the grant award to the Applicant, the Applicant has the responsibility to advise DDOE in writing. Another example would be the loss of the organization’s nonprofit tax status.

1.7 Permissible Use of Grant Funds

Grantees may use grant funds only for allowable grant project expenditures. Grant funds will be provided on a reimbursement basis, except that an advance of funds may be provided in limited circumstances.

1.8 Grant Monitoring

DDOE may use several methods to monitor the grant, including site visits, periodic financial reports and the collection of performance data. Each grant is subject to audit.

1.9 RFA Conditions - Promises, Certifications and Assurances

Please read carefully the attached Appendix 3, “Applicant’s Promises, Certifications and Assurances (PCA).” That document is incorporated by reference in this RFA. When an applicant signs the application it is making the listed promises, certifications and assurances and agrees to the other statements in that appendix.

1.10 DDOE’s Authority to Make Grants

General Authority: DDOE has grant-making authority under: the Water Pollution Control Act of 1984, eff. Mar. 16, 1985, as amended, (D.C. Law 5-188; D.C. Official Code §§ 8-101.01 *et seq.*), including § 8-103.12 (Make water-related research grants to

universities and institutions); the DDOE Establishment Act of 2005, §§ 101 *et seq.*, eff. Feb. 15, 2006, as amended, (D.C. Law 16-51, D.C. Official Code §§ 8-151.01-.15), including § 8-151.07(10) (Make awards and grants to improve the environment); and other applicable laws and regulations.

1.11 Conflicts Between RFA and Applicable Law

If there are any conflicts between the terms and conditions of this RFA and a provision of applicable law, including a public law, statute or regulation, the provision of the law shall control.

SECTION 2. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

2.1 RFA Release Date

The release date of this RFA is 3/21/14.

2.2 Obtaining a Copy of the RFA

A person may obtain a copy of this RFA by any of the methods in section 2.6. Please add to any note “Regarding RFA: Stream Restoration Monitoring #1405.”

2.3 Applications: When, What, and Where

When: All applications must be received at the address below by 4:30pm on 4/4/2014.

An application will be dated and recorded temporarily as “received” until DDOE staff have reviewed it to see if it is complete. DDOE considers an application to be “filed” only if all the required materials are submitted.

An application is not filed when sent. Late or incomplete applications will not be determined to be “filed.”

What: Copies and formats: Each application must consist of:

Five (5) hard copies; and

One (1) electronic copy.

The Department will not receive fax copies. Do not submit a fax copy.
The contents of the Application are specified below, in Section 3.

Where:

The hard copies must be filed with DDOE at the following address:

District of Columbia Department of the Environment

RFA – Grants
1200 First Street, NE
5th Floor
Washington, DC 20002

Attn: RFA Stream Restoration Monitoring #1405

Email: The electronic copy should be sent to the following email address:

2014nonpointsourceRFA.grants@dc.gov

Please note, if an organization is applying for more than one grant, a separate application packet must be submitted for each grant.

2.4 Award Announcement

DDOE expects to notify each Applicant of its award status within six (6) weeks after the application due date, in writing.

2.5 Updates and Q-and-A's

It is the Applicant's responsibility to stay up-to-date on the status and requirements of the grant for which it is applying.

DDOE welcomes questions seeking clarification of matters in this RFA. The questions should be sent to the email address presented below, in DDOE Contacts. DDOE will publish updates and Questions-and-Answers regarding the RFA at the website indicated below, in "Contact Information." DDOE will also create an email list. A person can be put on the email list by immediately emailing the address below with the subject line "RFA Stream Restoration Monitoring #1405 – Add me to the email list."

DDOE will provide the same information by email at the same time the information is uploaded to the DDOE website. Hard copy updates will be available for pickup at DDOE's offices, listed below, by appointment. DDOE will NOT mail out updates or Q&A materials.

2.6 DDOE Contacts

DDOE can be contacted about this RFA (use the RFA's short name and number whenever possible) through the following:

- (a) **Download** by visiting the DDOE's website, www.ddoe.dc.gov. Look for the following title/section, "Resources," click on it, cursor over the pull-down "Grants and Funding," click on it, then, on the new page, cursor down to the announcement for this RFA. Click on "read more." Then choose this document, and related information, to download in PDF format;

- (b) **Email** a request to 2014nonpointsourceRFA.grants@dc.gov with "Request copy of RFA Stream Restoration Monitoring #1405" in the subject line;
- (c) **In person by** making an appointment to pick up a copy from DDOE's offices at the following address, in subsection "(d)" (call Stephen Reiling at (202) 442-7700 and mention this RFA by name); or
- (d) **Write** DDOE at Office of Grants Management, 1200 First Street, N.E., 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20002, "Attention: RFA - Stream Restoration Monitoring #1405, Requesting a copy" on the outside of the letter.

SECTION 3. APPLICATION CONTENT

3.1 Format

Proposals should be formatted as follows:

- (a) Use plain, white, 8 ½" x 11" recycled paper with one-inch margins, headers and footers;
- (b) Applications should be double-sided if possible;
- (c) Limit each project description to 15 double-spaced pages.
- (d) Staple the application in the top left-hand corner. Do not use a plastic cover or other form of binding.

3.2 Cover Sheet

Please fill in the attached cover sheet, Appendix 1, answering the questions on it. The cover sheet must have the requested information. When you have completed filling out the cover sheet, please save it for submittal as a .pdf file.

3.3 Proposal Content

DDOE intends to fund projects that will benefit the environment, and, in particular, the environment of the District of Columbia. The proposal should explain, in increasing levels of detail, how the applicant will accomplish this.

First, present a summary. Then describe the project, starting with objectives, outcomes and outputs, and ending with specific activities and the project budget. Finally, describe the applicant's team and why the applicant can accomplish the proposed project.

- (a) Present the summary of the project.**

After writing the proposal, and its details, the applicant should summarize the proposal for an introductory section of the document. The summary should be only one or two paragraphs.

- (b) Present the project in detail.**

After briefly stating what the project is to accomplish, present the quantifiable outputs and how to measure the project's success. This will require identifying the target audience, explaining how the chosen methods will produce the outputs, and then what resources must be expended to achieve them. In presenting the project team and the budget, insure that expenditures are those that the grant can reimburse.

(1) Recognize the purpose and objectives.

Because all of the RFA's grants seek to fund projects that will benefit the environment, the proposal should state, first in general terms, how it will benefit the environment and the proposal's stated targets, or objectives.

(2) Describe the target audience.

If the proposed project is educational, or if a component of it will educate, the proposal must identify the target audience and address how the project will engage the target audience. Of course, the proposal would describe how educating the target audience would benefit the local environment.

(3) Present the project outcomes, outputs, and activities.

DDOE evaluates grant-funded projects at three additional levels. These are increasingly more specific – the expected outcomes, the project outputs that will produce the outcomes, and, finally, the activities that make the outputs possible.

The proposal must address the outcomes, outputs and activities:

A **project outcome** is a medium- to long-term result that occurs and/or continues after the project ends. Examples: improved health of residents; an adequately-sized riparian buffer; or increased public awareness of the effects of human activities on the health of the Chesapeake Bay. Outcomes tend not to be quantified, because they are typically statements of relative conditions.

An **output** is a short-term result achieved at the end of the project period. Examples: providing watershed education to 100 students; installation of 200 square feet of green roof and an informational sign; or two acres of land cleaned of invasive plants. Outputs can, and should be, quantified.

Activities are undertaken to achieve the outputs and outcomes. For example, if the project involves teachers, the proposal would explain how the applicant will recruit the

teachers, what the teachers will do, and if any experience or research supports the proposed use of teachers.

The proposal should connect the projected outcomes with the outputs, and the outputs, in turn, to the funded activities. That way reviewers will have a good idea of what the proposed project will achieve if funded.

(4) Describe methods.

The proposal should communicate how the applicant will harness people and resources to create the proposed activities.

(5) Explain how project success will be measured.

Provide quantifiable measurements. For example, a trash removal project addresses the pounds of trash removed, a stormwater project measures the amount of stormwater captured. Also, if there are key tasks in the project, the proposal would identify the milestones that the project will achieve in order to produce outputs.

(6) Observe restrictions and be aware of available preference points in the scoring.

Please read the project description very carefully to see if there are restrictions for the DDOE grant. For instance, certain activities might be required to take place in the District, or the scoring might give extra points to labor sourced in the District.

(7) Present the project budget.

The proposal must present a project budget. The budget must come with a narrative.

An example of a project budget table, with categories that DDOE examines, appears in Appendix 2. Your narrative should explain each budget line item. The explanation should be thorough enough to allow a reviewer to understand why expenditure levels were chosen and how the line item amounts were derived. The narrative should list its principal assumptions – for example, “senior staff are \$xx per hour times xx hours.”

The proposal should use the budget format in Appendix 2. But, if your own internal budget format is more detailed and covers each of the indicated line items, you may submit in that budget format. That format presents the total cost of the project, even if the total exceeds the amount of the grant.

Resources other than those from the grant would appear in the column titled “Non-DDOE Match,” meaning the applicant intends to provide the indicated resources, the “match,” and that the resources do not come from DDOE. The applicant would enter in this column both dollars and the value of the in-kind contributions. In-kind contributions can include staff time, volunteer services, already-paid licensing fees, materials, supplies, and the use of equipment or real estate.

Volunteer hours provided to a grantee or sub-grantee by individuals must be valued at rates consistent with those which the applicant’s organization ordinarily pays for similar work, including salary and fringes. If the grantee or sub-grantee does not have employees performing similar work, the rates will be valued according to those ordinarily paid by other employers for similar work in the same labor market.

The applicant must verify that all costs in the budget are allowable and verifiable. See “Allowable Costs” and “Non-Allowable Costs,” listed below. Please keep in mind that DDOE will require documentation for grant payments, and the entire grant will be subject to audit.

(8) Be aware of allowable costs.

Allowable costs are those typical of operations:

1. Rental of office space, some vehicles, and some equipment;
2. Employee salaries and benefits;
3. Contractor labor, including professional services;
4. Accounting, bookkeeping services;
5. Communications, including telephone and data services;
6. Printing, reproduction, including signage;
7. Materials and supplies;
8. Many computers and printers;
9. Plants and tree-plantings;
10. Small tools;
11. Some field equipment, typically below \$5,000 in value;
12. Postage, shipping;
13. Some travel, meals and lodging; and
14. Insurance.

If the category or size of the expenditure is not obviously connected to the proposed project, the proposal should justify it. For example, a project to install a \$100,000 trash trap should discuss how the particular equipment was identified and why the price is the best for the project.

Non-Allowable Costs include those for lobbying and entertainment, for such long term items as real estate, and for many very large expenditures:

1. Most major equipment, like vehicles;
2. Lobbying, including salaries and overheads and out-of-pocket expenses;
3. Entertainment;
4. Interest payments on loans;
5. Most food; and
6. Land purchases.

(c) Describe the applicant.

(1) Describe the organization.

Describe the organization's history, mission, and current or past projects that demonstrate the organization's capacity to achieve the project's goals. This section should be limited to one page. For further information the applicant can reference a website or an attached organizational brochure or resume.

(2) Identify key personnel.

The proposal should identify the key team members for the project and provide brief biographies or their resumes. The team members can be staff, volunteers or contractors.

(3) Summarize past performance of DC grants/contracts.

DDOE wants to know if an applicant has worked with the District of Columbia as a contractor, grantee or partner. The proposal must identify District agencies from which the organization has received funding in the past five years, stating the grant or contract title, the agency, the grant number or other identifier, the amount paid, and what was accomplished as a result of the funding. The applicant must also briefly describe disputes, investigations or audits.

(4) Identify partners.

Sometimes partnerships can improve the success of a project. These might be agencies, non-governmental organizations, companies or individuals. If a partner is involved in the project, the applicant should describe the partner's involvement and resource

commitments. The proposal should identify and attach a letter of support on the partner's letterhead, or email with formal identification, from an authorized official.

SECTION 4. Review Panel and Application Scoring

4.1 Review Panel

This is a competitive grant. The review panel for the RFA will be composed of individuals with knowledge in the areas directly related to the RFA. The review panel will review, score and rank each applicant's proposal.

When the review panel has completed this work, the panel will make recommendations for awards based on the scoring criteria for the particular grant at issue.

Review panels vary in size. Typically three to five people sit on a review panel. The review panel will consist of at least three technical people. At least two of the review panel will be from DDOE staff. Whenever practicable each panel will have at least one person from outside of DDOE.

4.2 Scoring Criteria

The reviewers score each proposal according to a list of criteria and their available points. The scoring of each application is based on a 100-point scale. The criteria and the points appear in the RFA's description of each grant opportunity. The applicant should read this list carefully, insuring that the proposal addresses each of the criteria.

The review panel will evaluate each proposal using the criteria listed with each project description. The panel will recommend the top scorer for funding (subject, of course, to how much grant funding is available).

Preferences may be awarded for points independent of the 100-point scale. An applicant with an address in the District at the time of the application will be awarded a residency preference of 10 (ten) points. If the Applicant does not have an address in the District, but the application includes a District-based business or non-profit partner, five (5) points will be awarded. The residency preference will be afforded as follows:

1. The preference points will be added to any points awarded to the applicant on the 100-point scale used to rank qualified applications to each project.
2. Preference candidates will be selected ahead of equally scoring, non-preference candidates.

Some grants require matching funds or other matching resources. Some grants do not require matches, but do allot points for scoring. Matches can be provided with resources of value to the proposed project, as discussed above in the section on budget. The applicant should read the grant description carefully to determine if a match is required or allot points.

SECTION 5. FILING REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Documents to File as Part of the Proposal

Each of the following documents must be filed as part of the proposal package. If the document is not in this filing, DDOE may classify the grant application as “received” but not filed. Status as “received” will not meet the application deadline. Exception: If a government agency must issue the document, and the applicant has requested the document, DDOE may accept a copy of the applicant’s request to the agency as proof of the request.

(a) Certificate of Good Standing

Each applicant must submit a Certificate of Good Standing from the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. The Certificate shall be current. DDOE defines “current” as having been issued within 60 days of the date of the application’s submission.

(b) Promises, Certifications and Assurances document

Each applicant must sign the lengthy document called “Promises, Certifications and Assurances” (“PCA”) in Appendix 3. This document is incorporated by reference in the RFA. This means that it is, and should be read as, part of the RFA. This is an important document.

Signing the PCA as though under oath is a condition of eligibility for the grant applied for. If the Applicant is not prepared to sign the PCA it should not apply for a grant. The signature also constitutes a continuing promise and certification, which is a continuing condition of eligibility for each grant described in the RFA.

The PCA must be signed by an individual grant recipient or, if an organization, by the duly authorized officer of the applicant organization. If the person signing for the Applicant is barred by faith or custom from swearing under oath, s/he may “attest to the truth.”

The applicant is not required to send the entire document back to DDOE. Rather, DDOE requires the table of contents and the signature page. The applicant should print the pages on which the table of contents appears and the last signature page of the document, sign the signature page, and submit the pages with the proposal.

The PCA also includes a sworn statement verifying that the Applicant is current on all obligations outstanding to the District, including the District's agencies. DDOE defines "current" to mean as of the date of the application, the date of a grant award, and the period of the grant. DDOE will require, as a condition of continuing eligibility, that a grantee stay current on such obligations.

(c) W-9 Tax Form

The applicant must submit a current completed W-9 form, prepared for U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) purposes. DDOE defines "current" to mean that the document was completed within the same calendar year as that of the application date. If the applicant has submitted a current completed W-9 to DDOE for another application, or for another purpose, the applicant may submit a copy of that document.

(d) Tax Exemption Letter

The tax exemption letter is the IRS determination letter of non-profit status, if one was issued. If not available, then the applicant should provide its most recent IRS Form 990 tax return, if one was submitted. If no return has yet been filed, the organization can submit its IRS tax status application. If the group has a supporting organization with an IRS tax determination, the related documents should be submitted.

If there is no IRS documentation because the organization is a religious organization, the applicant may submit the best evidence it can of its status: (i) a letter from the leader of the organization verifying that the organization is a religious group; (ii) a letter from the group's board chair or similar official, verifying that the organization is a religious group; (iii) the applicant's most recently submitted state sales or other tax exemption form, if it exists (Form 164 in the District of Columbia); or (iv) the state's issued tax exemption certificate or card, if it exists. (See IRS publication no. 1828, *Tax Guide for Churches and Religious Organizations*.)

(e) Applicant's current fiscal year budget

The applicant must submit its full budget, including projected income, for the organization's current fiscal year, using a format at least as detailed as that presented in Appendix 2. Also, the applicant should submit a comparison of budgeted versus actual income and expenses to date.

(f) Applicant's financial statements

If the applicant has undergone an audit, it must provide the most recent audited financial statements. If audited financial statements are not available, the applicant must provide its most recent complete year's unaudited financial statements.

(g) Separation of duties policy

Applicant must submit a statement that states how the organization separates financial transactions/duties between people within the organization, for the purposes of preventing fraud and/or waste. This may be a statement that already exists as a formal policy of the organization, or the applicant may create the statement for the application. The applicant should state which is the case.

This statement should describe how financial transactions are handled and recorded. It should include names and titles of personnel involved in handling money, how many signatures the bank/s requires on the organization's checks and withdrawal slips. It should address other limits on staff and board members' handling of the organization's money.

(h) If applicable, letters of support

If a project requires a partner, the applicant should attach a letter of support, or equivalent, with the proposal. DDOE has experience with four cases:

1. District of Columbia Public Schools

If the applicant will work with the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), then it must include a letter of support from the principal of each school with which it will work, and, if available, from each participating teacher. Teachers and principals may send a joint letter.

2. Property Owner

If the applicant will work on public land, it must submit a letter of support from the managing agency. Similarly, if the applicant is to work on private land, it must submit a letter of support from each property owner. If the project includes construction or installation, the letter must acknowledge that the property owner will be responsible (either directly or through an agreement with another entity) for project maintenance.

3. Partnering Organization

If the applicant has identified a project partner, it must include a letter of intent from the collaborating organization/s, agreeing to participate in the proposed project. The letter should demonstrate that the partnering organization understands the project presented for funding and the activities and/or services which the partner will provide.

4. National Park Service

Projects that would be carried out on National Park Service (NPS) property will require NPS permission. Sometimes the paperwork supporting such permission takes extra time to complete. DDOE will accept more informal statements generated by responsible NPS officials, including emails.

5.2 Documents to file if DDOE notifies that it will make the grant

Each of the following documents must be filed with DDOE before DDOE can pay out funds pursuant to a grant award. Exception: If a government agency must issue the document, and the applicant/grantee has requested the document, DDOE may accept a copy of the applicant's request to the agency as proof of the request.

(a) Certificate of insurance

The grantee shall be required to submit a certificate of insurance giving evidence of the required coverage, either before or after the award, but before work commences. In reviewing the grant proposal, DDOE will presume that the budget covers the cost of this required insurance, and will not later adjust the grant award for this amount.

(b) Assurance of continued truth and accuracy

The grantee will be required to reaffirm upon acceptance of the grant award that the statements it signed in support of its application are still true and correct, or, if not, what has changed. One of the grantee's promises, as an applicant, is to advise DDOE of material changes since the filing of the application.

(c) System for Award Management (SAM) registration with federal government

If the project description in this RFA identifies the funding source and it is wholly or partially funded by a federal grant, open a SAM account at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM> and report the SAM registration number to DDOE.

SECTION 6. FILING REQUIREMENTS GENERAL PROVISIONS

6.1 Grant Award Administration

The following terms and conditions apply after DDOE has made its decision to grant an award.

(a) DDOE's announcement of award

DDOE's objective is to announce grant awards by at least six (6) weeks after the date DDOE receives the application.

(b) Grantee's reports

The Grantee must file reports as one of the continuing conditions for eligibility:

1. Quarterly status reports (template to be provided with the grant award). These reports will be due on each of the following dates. The reports discuss grant activities for the preceding quarter:

1 st Q (Jan-Mar):	April 15
2 nd Q (Apr-Jun):	July 15
3 rd Q (Jul-Sep):	October 15
4 th Q (Oct-Dec):	January 15

If a report's due date falls on a weekend or District holiday, the report will be due the next business day.

The report must detail actions taken in the quarter preceding the report date, highlight outputs achieved, and report unforeseen changes to project timetable, staffing or partnerships, as well as any other changes that may affect project outcomes.

2. A final report (template to be provided with the grant award). This report may include the grantee's quantifying the project's outputs and describing the extent to which project outcomes met or will meet the objectives of the funded proposal. DDOE prefers hard data, and analysis of the data.

(c) Reimbursement of project expenditures

Grantees will not be reimbursed for any work that is undertaken before DDOE awards the grant.

DDOE's standard practice for grant award payments is to reimburse for expenditures related to work performed. In limited cases DDOE may pay start-up funds at the beginning of the grant period. If the applicant seeks start-up payments it should make the request in its proposal, and explain the request.

DDOE operates on the District's fiscal year, which starts October 1 of a calendar year and ends September 30 of the next calendar year. The grantee may submit a reimbursement request, or invoice, at any time during the fiscal year. Each request/invoice must include supporting documentation.

Reimbursements will be mailed to the address on file for the grantee. DDOE may make electronic payments in lieu of mailing checks. DDOE generally pays grant invoices six (6) weeks after DDOE receives them.

DDOE will withhold the final ten percent (10%) invoiced under a grant until all activities have been completed, including receipt of the final report.

SECTION 7. PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR GRANT FUNDING

7.1 Summary: Project Title and Available Funds

Name	Total Projects	Total Amount
Stream Restoration Monitoring	1	\$50,000.00

7.2 Project Description

Nash Run and Springhouse Run Stream Restoration Monitoring

This project funds macroinvertebrate and fish monitoring in the Nash Run and Springhouse Run tributaries of the Anacostia River. The project also funds water quality monitoring at Springhouse Run. The District Department of the Environment (DDOE) Watershed Protection Division (WPD) is implementing stream restoration projects at Nash Run and Springhouse Run, first-order and second-order (respectively) tributaries of the Anacostia River. Restoration activities will focus on returning approximately 1,400 feet of Nash Run and 1,700 feet of Springhouse Run to self-sustaining streams through the use of floodplain reconnection and natural channel design guidelines. The resulting restored stream channels will be aesthetically pleasing and hydrologically stable, with increased meanders and greater access to their floodplains. Habitat and riparian features will be addressed through the use of in-stream structures to promote pool and riffle sequences, and floodplain wetlands will be established within the areas of disturbance.

It is anticipated that construction on the Nash Run stream project will begin in early 2014. Springhouse Run construction is anticipated to begin in fall 2014, and each project will last approximately six months. DDOE is requesting proposals to conduct three years of post-construction monitoring at Nash Run, and one year of pre- and two years of post-construction monitoring of Springhouse Run, to determine the impact of the stream restoration projects. DDOE will work with the applicant to identify proper protocol and monitoring locations; however, the type of information needed is listed below.

Approximate Available Funds

EPA Nonpoint Source Management Grant, CFDA #66.640, Grant #C9-003496-12-0

Up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) will be awarded pending the availability of funds. Matching funds are encouraged but not required.

Project Period

The project period is up to four years. Funding for this work is currently available through September 30, 2016; however, DDOE's need for this work to be performed exceeds this end date. DDOE is seeking funding for the final two years of monitoring so that the grant award that results from this RFA can be amended with time and funds to allow work through September 30, 2018.

Nash Run

The monitoring will occur over three years, beginning one year after the completion of stream restoration work. The post-construction/restoration dormant period will allow the project area to stabilize, as it is expected that any monitoring and sampling performed will be influenced by elevated levels of turbidity following construction.

Springhouse Run

The monitoring will occur over four years, beginning in spring 2014, prior to the start of construction. There will be little to no activity during the second year. This dormant period will allow the project area to stabilize, as it is expected that any monitoring and sampling performed will be influenced by elevated levels of turbidity following construction.

Project Description

Funding is available for conducting macroinvertebrate and fish monitoring in the Nash Run and Springhouse Run tributaries of the Anacostia River. For macroinvertebrate characterization, it is expected that the applicant will follow a semiannual monitoring interval, which includes a spring and summer/fall sampling. The applicant should include a draft quality assurance project plan (QAPP) with this application.

DDOE will provide the grantee with any beneficial background information that DDOE has obtained through the design of the stream restoration, including geographic information system (GIS) data, detailed survey information, and geomorphic studies. DDOE will provide the grantee

with a 2009 macroinvertebrate report for Nash Run and several years of fish monitoring data to be used as baseline information for pre-restoration conditions.

The following tasks and monitoring elements are being requested by DDOE for both Nash Run and Springhouse Run. However, monitoring for macroinvertebrates prior to construction is required only for Springhouse Run. In addition, water quality monitoring will be required only for Springhouse Run.

Task 1 – Stream Assessment and Preliminary Source Identification

Grantee will analyze the stream assessment data provided by DDOE for Nash Run and Springhouse Run restoration projects, including wetted perimeter width, riffle depth, streambed substrate composition and quality, riffle embeddedness levels, pool depth and quality, stream gradient, channel width, streambank stability, and canopy coverage. If it is determined that additional information will be required to complete this monitoring project, grantee will coordinate with DDOE to as to how this information will be collected.

Task 2 – Biological Community Assessment

Grantee will perform a spring 2014 20-jab benthic macroinvertebrate collection prior to restoration at Springhouse Run. (Pre-restoration monitoring has already been completed at Nash Run.) For this and the subsequent (post-restoration) 20-jab collection surveys, the core Maryland Biological Stream Survey (MBSS) metrics for streams in the Coastal Plain physiographic region will be calculated, including total taxa, number of EPT taxa, number of Ephemeroptera, percent intolerant urban, percent Ephemeroptera, number of scraper taxa, and percent climbers. These individual metric results will then be used to calculate pre- and post-restoration index of biotic integrity (IBI) scores for all monitoring sites. The IBI scores will then be used in both inter- and intra-stream specific macroinvertebrate community health comparisons. In addition to the above metrics, the number of individuals, densities, etc. will be determined to help further characterize the urban stream macroinvertebrate community for pre- and post-construction conditions.

Resident Fish Surveys

Grantee will coordinate with DDOE staff (Fisheries and Wildlife Division and Water Quality Division) to perform an annual two-pass electrofishing survey for a representative 75-meter stream reach at DDOE-determined site(s). The core MBSS metrics for streams in the Coastal Plain physiographic region to be calculated will include the following:

1. Number of native species
2. Number of benthic fish species
3. Number of intolerant species
4. Percent tolerant fish
5. Percent abundance of dominant species
6. Percent generalists, omnivores, and insectivores
7. Number of individual per square meter
8. Biomass per square meter

These individual metric results will then be used to calculate IBI scores. This task will be performed once during the pre-construction condition and twice a year for the post-construction condition, at both the Nash Run and Springhouse Run locations.

Task 2a – Water Quality/Stream Monitoring (Springhouse Run Only)

The grantee will measure water quality parameters, including pH, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, turbidity, air and water temperature, salinity, total dissolved solids, nitrate, and fluoride. Stream fluoride concentrations will be measured to help ascertain whether inflows of treated municipal water and/or sewage are entering the stream system. Water quality instantaneous measurements will be recorded up to four times, semiannually.

In addition, the grantee will perform a baseflow water quality characterization of Springhouse Run for the following standard water quality parameters: total suspended solids, total phosphorus, ammonia, total nitrogen, nitrate nitrogen, e-coli and/or enterococci bacteria, and biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5). This characterization will consist of up to two semiannual grab samples. In addition, grantee will deploy continuous water temperature monitoring probes for Springhouse Run and Hickey Run to determine the thermal regime effects of Springhouse Run on the Hickey Run mainstem, if any.

Task 3 – Water Quality/Flow Monitoring (Nash Run Only)

At the Nash Run site, the grantee will perform the following activities under Task 3:

1. Characterize the hydrograph of Nash Run both before construction (“pre”) and after construction (“post”) with the weir at the Anacostia Avenue NE culvert, using a continuously-recording pressure transducer. Installation of a rain gauge to assess localized rainfall will be necessary if a reliable rain gauge is not located within one half-mile of the stream.
2. Characterize nutrient processing and sediment loads in the stream using collected stormwater samples. In order to adequately do this, capturing a minimum of seven storm events pre and 16 storm events post would be required. Capturing a range of storms should be a goal.
3. Take five pre and eight post baseflow samples (at different times of the year) to assess bacteria loading in the stream that might point to sanitary sewer leaks.

Task 4 – Technical Memorandum

The grantee will prepare brief quarterly reports, as well as a concise, 12-15 page technical memorandum summarizing the results from Tasks 1-3. The technical memorandum will include supporting tables, GIS maps and figures, photographs, and relevant GPS locations. It will also, where appropriate, include stream monitoring and stream restoration condition-related recommendations.

Project Outcomes

1. A comprehensive understanding of impact of the Nash Run and Springhouse Run stream restoration projects
2. An increased understanding of how stream restoration impacts biotic stream health
3. An understanding of the water quality benefits due to the stream restoration project

Project Outputs and Deliverables

1. Three years of monitoring including the elements detailed in Tasks 1-3
2. Monitoring QAPP
3. Brief quarterly status reports listing progress to date
4. Technical analysis reports, submitted as necessary (frequency may be negotiated between DDOE and grantee)
5. A final report

Additional Requirements

1. The proposal should include a draft monitoring schedule. The final schedule is dependent upon the completion of the water quality/stream monitoring project (Task 2a).
2. The grantee must create and make available a QAPP prior to signing of the grant agreement.
3. The grantee must obtain a scientific research permit from DDOE's Fisheries and Wildlife Division prior to collecting any samples.

Criteria for Evaluating Proposals

1. Experience conducting similar monitoring (25 points)
2. Thoroughness of sampling plan (20 points)
3. Capacity to carry out monitoring, perform water quality and data analysis, and prepare monitoring reports, including identification of the staffing to do so (25 points)
4. Ability to compare pre- and post-monitoring data and develop a final report documenting the project results (20 points)
5. Adequate and reasonable justification for the funds requested, presented as a line item budget (10 points)

The project period is up to four years. Funding for this work is currently available through September 30, 2016; however, DDOE's need for this work to be performed exceeds this end date. DDOE is seeking funding for the final two years of monitoring so that the grant award that results from this RFA can be amended with time and funds to allow work through September 30, 2018.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – COVER SHEET

A cover sheet must be submitted as the first document in the application for an announced grant. If the applicant is applying for more than one grant, each grant should have its own cover sheet. Please use Appendix 1 to prepare the cover sheet.

There is no special design format to this cover sheet, except that the items must stay in their numbered order. This cover sheet may be submitted single-spaced.

From DDOE's website, the applicant can download a pdf version of the cover sheet.

An application submitted without the properly filled-in cover sheet will be considered NOT filed. The result could be that the applicant misses the filing deadline. Please fill in a cover sheet for each grant sought.

Appendix 2 - EXAMPLE OF GRANT BUDGET

Please submit a budget in this format.

Appendix 3 - PROMISES, CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES ("PCA")

Please review and sign this document, following the instructions in it.

Filename: Monitoring RFA 2014 WPD.docx